

**NORTH HAVEN CLEAN ENERGY TASK FORCE**  
**Minutes of October 6, 2008 Meeting**

Attendees: Patricia Brown, Rip Dauster, Hugh Davis, Kenny Foscue, Maurice Libson, Letty McPhedran, Mary Mahon and Diantha Thorpe

The minutes of September 8, 2008 were reviewed and accepted.

1) Announcements:

Shelly Wheeler-Carreiro and Nick Gill have resigned from the committee. To increase membership, the First Selectman will be asked to announce the need for more volunteers at the next Board of Selectman meeting and a call for volunteers will be posted on the Town's website and North Haven TV (NHTV). Pat will contact Walter Mann of NHTV regarding the TV announcement.

The meetings scheduled for November 20, 2008 and December 8, 2008 will be held in the Library Meeting Room.

2) Committee Reports:

**Grants:** The students in the Project Green Program at North Haven High School were successful in signing up residents from seven homes. Project Green will receive a grant award from the Task Force for participating in the clean energy initiative. Anthony Giordano, the high school teacher working with Project Green, indicated that the group may participate again this year.

**Government Liaison:** Letty, Mary and Hugh met with Janet McCarty, the First Selectman, on September 12, 2008 to update her on the committee's efforts and to discuss the status of the Town's solar panels. They learned from Ms McCarty that a 6-pronged energy conservation plan has been launched and it will save the Town about \$425,000. The six initiatives are to 1) allow UI access to North Haven's three emergency generators during peak demand; 2) reduce the wattage of 3600 street lights in North Haven; 3) replace the light bulbs in school and town buildings with more efficient bulbs and controls; 4) update environmental systems in town buildings; 5) use alternative sources of energy to heat the town's swimming pool and 6) convert methane gas from the Water Pollution Control Facility to electricity. Some of the cost savings will be used to fund the Clean Energy Program.

The First Selectman asked for recommendations on where to install the first two solar panels acquired through the Task Force's efforts. One suggestion was at the Middle School.

**Outreach:** Hugh and Letty attended a recent Rotary Club Breakfast. Hugh made a presentation but there were no sign ups.

On October 4, 2008, Letty, Kenny, Mary and Hugh had a table at the Energy Forum held at the North Haven Middle School. The attendees were interested in energy issues and 14 signed up for the clean energy program.

On October 12, 2008, Rip and Diantha will have an information/signup table at the site of the Columbus Day parade.

On October 17<sup>th</sup> between 4 & 7 PM, there will be an information/sign up table at the North Haven Stop & Shop. Hugh, Letty and Kenny will take the 4 to 5:30 PM slot and Diantha and Pat will cover the 5:30 to 7 PM period.

On November 4<sup>th</sup>, the Project Green high school students may participate in the clean energy sign-up program at the election sites. Mary will contact Anthony regarding the students' participation.

The group discussed several ways to encourage greater town participation in the Clean Energy Program. Maurice volunteered to invite Mike Okrent, Chair of the Bethany Task Force, to our next meeting to help us identify additional strategies for participation. Letty offered to submit information on the event and the guest to the calendars of the three local papers and invite the public.

The Task Force members discussed the importance of contacting UI to determine the number of North Haven sign ups since the beginning of the Task Force's efforts. This is important to make certain that the Town gets credit for all of the sign ups.

The committee members discussed approaching the business community/developer at North Haven Commons regarding clean energy use.

**Publicity and Education:** In August 2008, Chris Kirby's blog focused on clean energy <http://www.northhavennews.com/2008/08/episode-16-august-21-2008/>. Mr. Kirby launched his video blog in October 2007 to offer quick recaps of the town's major news stories.

Rip will talk with Sara Querfeld, Superintendent of Schools, about getting teachers involved in the Clean Energy Program and Mary will contact the head of the PTA to discuss interest.

4) The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.